AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-6-204 and Section 50-6-205, relative to reimbursement for certain travel expenses for injured workers receiving workers' compensation benefits.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-6-204(a), is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

- (i) An injured employee shall be reimbursed for all costs incurred traveling to and from any authorized medical provider or facility. If the injured employee travels by motor vehicle, the reimbursement shall be calculated as the state mileage allowance for the total round-trip distance from the employee's residence to the provider's facility. If the injured employee does not possess a valid driver license or a current vehicle registration and submits a signed statement of total travel expenses, along with original bus or taxi receipts, the injured employee shall be reimbursed in full for these costs.
- (ii) The mileage allowance for the injured employee will be equal to the mileage allowance authorized for state employees who have been authorized to use personally owned vehicles in the performance of their duties. This mileage rate reimbursement will be based on the last published Travel Reimbursement Rate Schedule of the Comprehensive Travel Regulations, Rules of the Department of Finance and Administration Accounts Division, Chapter 0620-1-1.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-6-205(b)(1), is amended by inserting the words and punctuation "travel reimbursement," between the words "of" and "medical".

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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